



**For Immediate Release
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**SCHEDULE FOR REOPENING OF NICKERSON STATE PARK CAMPGROUNDS
AND RESERVATIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 15TH**

BREWSTER—The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Division of State Parks and Recreation today announced that \$1 million to repair the storm damage at Nickerson State Park has been released by Environmental Affairs Secretary Stephen R. Pritchard. The damage, caused by several storms in December 2005—particularly the storm of December 9th—forced a temporary halt to reservations at the popular campground.

"I'm happy to report that plans have been developed to complete the electrical and forestry work at the park," said DCR Commissioner Stephen H. Burrington. "The necessary funding has been secured and DCR has engaged electrical and tree contractors to restore campsite safety and services. Electrical work began yesterday."

DCR plans to open approximately 200 campsites for reservations by early March. An opening of the entire park is still anticipated, but there may be a staggered opening of the 400 total campsites. Customers who have already made a reservation at Nickerson for 2006 will be contacted by DCR if changes to their reservations are necessary.

A final schedule for reopening of the park is not yet complete, but on February 15th DCR will announce the sites that will be available for reservations, and when. Reservations will open no less than two weeks from the date of the announcement. A notice will be posted on DCR's web site, www.mass.gov/dcr, and on the Nickerson State Park page of ReserveAmerica.com, DCR's third-party reservation service.

Although Nickerson reservation services are currently suspended, other camping opportunities are available on Cape Cod. Scusset Beach State Reservation and Shawme-Crowell State Forest (both in Sandwich) are currently open for reservations and offer picturesque beachside and forest camping, respectively.

Photos of storm damage at Nickerson State Park are available.

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